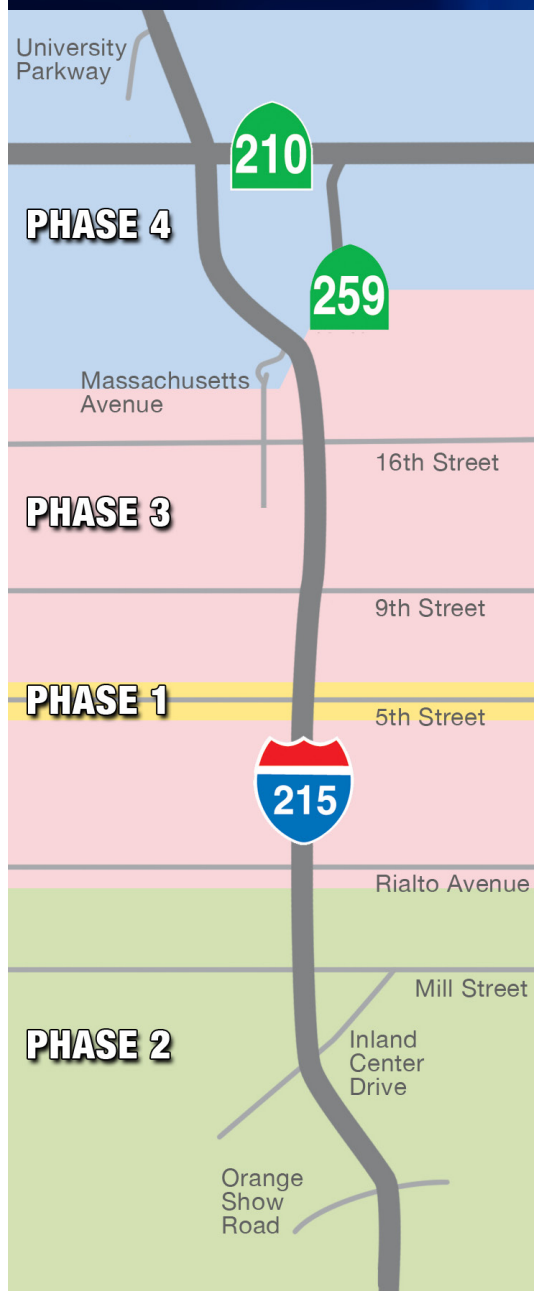




# CRUISIN' THROUGH CONSTRUCTION

Interstate 215 Widening Project, San Bernardino

April 2010, Issue 39



## Senator Barbara Boxer Visits I-215 Project Area

The I-215 Widening Project is getting national attention! California Senator Barbara Boxer visited the I-215 Widening Project in April, touting the positive impact being made on the San Bernardino region – and thus the nation – as a result of the economic stimulus dollars.

More than 8,000 jobs – 2,000 jobs per year for the next four years – will be brought to the Inland Empire since Senator Boxer and other officials helped secure \$128 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds for the I-215 Widening Project. Without these funds, the project could have been delayed, contributing to the high unemployment rate already existing in the Inland Empire.

Senator Boxer saw the economic stimulus dollars being put to work during a tour of the project area near the Baseline Avenue

bridge. Visual display boards and 3-D project models illustrated the large-scale project that will help get San Bernardino back on track from the recession.

What's more, Senator Boxer pledged her support for other projects in the San Bernardino region, making a commitment to assist with securing funding for the I-15/I-215 interchange in Devore. Thanks to Senator Boxer for her support and recognition of San Bernardino!



Senator Barbara Boxer speaks to local dignitaries about the benefits of ARRA funds while taking a tour of the I-215 Widening Project site.

## Crews Focus on New Connectors and Bridge Construction

Construction is now in full swing throughout the corridor with crews working on various bridges between 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and 27<sup>th</sup> Street/Mt. Vernon Avenue. Keeping the project moving forward, crews began two new long-term closures in April.

Starting Monday, April 19, the southbound I-215 connector to eastbound SR-210 closed for approximately six weeks to allow crews to work on the new ramps. As a detour, drivers can take the westbound SR-210 ramp, exit State Street and turn left, and make a quick right to re-enter eastbound SR-210.

Also in April, crews closed the northbound off-ramp and southbound on-ramp at 27<sup>th</sup> Street/Mt. Vernon Avenue. These ramps will be closed for approximately two years while crews construct the new bridge.

During construction, drivers exiting I-215 northbound can exit Muscupiabe Drive and continue traveling north to Highland Avenue. To enter I-215 traveling southbound, drivers can travel south on Mt. Vernon Avenue, turn left on Highland Avenue, and enter I-215 at SR-259.

## Long Term and Permanent Closures



As construction continues on I-215, please note the following closures:

**2<sup>nd</sup> Street between G and I Streets** – Closed starting April 26 for approximately eight weeks while crews complete drainage work. All ramps remain open for drivers in the westbound direction.

**4<sup>th</sup> Street On-Ramps** – Eliminated and will be replaced with ramps directly on the 5<sup>th</sup> Street bridge.

**9<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge** – Closed to drivers and pedestrians until late 2010.

**Southbound I-215 Baseline Avenue Off-Ramp** – Closed until the new ramps are constructed in Fall 2013.

**Northbound Highland Avenue Off-Ramp** – Closed permanently and reconfigured with access to Highland Avenue via a collector road.

**Northbound Highland Avenue On-Ramp** – Closed long-term while crews construct the collector road.

**27<sup>th</sup> Street/Mt. Vernon Avenue Southbound On-Ramp and Northbound Off-Ramp** – Closed starting April 2 for approximately two years when new bridge is complete.

**Southbound I-215 to Eastbound SR-210 Connector** – Closed starting April 19 for approximately six weeks.

## Major Milestone Ahead: Final Inland Center Driver Ramp to Open Soon!

May marks a major milestone for the I-215 Widening Project. The fourth and final ramp at Inland Center Drive will be completed and reopened to drivers next month, weather permitting.

The final concrete pour will be completed the first half of May, allowing crews to open the southbound Inland Center Drive on-ramp. The other three Inland Center Drive ramps - two off-ramps and northbound on-ramp - opened to drivers in late 2009, providing the public with increased access to the mall and surrounding businesses.

Also during the month of May, crews will continue laying rockscapes along the side of I-215 between Orange Show Road and Inland Center Drive along with detail work on the Mill Street overpass.

This portion of the project, between Orange Show Road and Mill Street, is scheduled to be complete summer 2010. A new carpool and general-use lane will be opened to drivers along with reconfigured on- and off-ramps. Bridges and underpasses have been expanded to accommodate the new lanes and are adorned with symbols that represent San Bernardino's finest attributes – mountain ranges, arrowheads, fountains, and trains.

For travel information dial:  
**511**

Or visit:  
**[www.IE511.org](http://www.IE511.org)**



## Heading to a Ballgame? There's New Way to Get There!

Play ball! After the IE 66ers season began with a bang on April 12, attendees using 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to get to the games will need to use an alternate route to get to Arrowhead Credit Union Stadium.

On Monday, April 26, crews closed 2<sup>nd</sup> Street for eight weeks between G Street and I Street to re-align drainage systems, making it so there will be no through traffic at the underpass.

Detours to access on- and off-ramps and to access the opposite side of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street are included below:

- NB & SB I-215 Ramps: Full access remains for WB traffic. To access I-215 for EB 2<sup>nd</sup> Street traffic, follow EB 2<sup>nd</sup> Street detour below and turn right on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street
- WB 2<sup>nd</sup> Street: Turn right on G Street, turn left on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, turn left on I Street, and turn right on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to continue traveling WB on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

- EB 2<sup>nd</sup> Street: Turn left on I Street, turn right on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, turn right on G Street, and turn left on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to continue traveling EB on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

Be sure to keep an eye out for our informational booths at the ballpark for upcoming IE 66ers games and other events – like the American Red Cross Safety and Preparedness Fair that was held April 17. Pick up a brochure and view our maps to learn more about the project.



Drivers use 3<sup>rd</sup> Street as a detour to access 2<sup>nd</sup> Street ramps during the eight-week street closure.

## What's To Come in May

- 9<sup>th</sup> Street bridge takes form with temporary bridge structure
- Work continues on the Mill Street overpass
- Column work to continue for the Baseline Avenue bridge



The I-215 Widening Project is a partnership among San Bernardino Associated Governments, the California Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration and the City of San Bernardino.

## Project Questions?

For questions or to request a presentation about the widening of Interstate 215, call the toll-free helpline, **1-877-215-NEWS**.

The I-215 Widening Project is now on Twitter. Follow us @215NEWS.

